## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: A

Atsushi TAKAI et al.

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## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents POB 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

21 July 2003

Sir:

Prior to calculating the filing fee for the above-identified new continuation application, the following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted.

This Amendment is being submitted in the "Revised Format" of the manner of making amendments under 37 CFR §1.121 signed into effect in the Revised Notice dated 02/13/03 and available to all Applicants, where the current requirement to provide a clean version is waived. Therefore, each section of amendment begins on a new page, and the current status of all claims is given as: all claims presently or previously cancelled, or withdrawn from consideration, indicated only by number and status; all claims being amended herein including markings to show changes by strikethrough and underlining to indicate deletions and additions, respectively; and all claims not being amended herein presented in clean version.